

LENOX ACADEMY
75 Main Street
Lenox
Berkshire County
Massachusetts

HABS NO. MA-1239

HABS
MASS
2-LENX,
1-

PHOTOGRAPHS AND
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

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1-

ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE Massachusetts	COUNTY Berkshire	TOWN OR VICINITY Lenox
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) LENOX ACADEMY		HABS NO. MA-1239
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) 75 Main Street		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1803, possibly earlier (Lenox Hist. Comm.)	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) Eldad Lewis	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) This building is significant historically as the first academy for secondary education established in Berkshire County. It is of architectural significance as an excellent example of a high style Federal period institutional building.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) Federal		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) clapboard, ashlar foundation		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) 2 story, rectangular block 5 bays by 2 bays with a hipped roof surmounted by a cupola		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE Decorative elements as confined to the central facade bay where a palladian window is placed over the pedimented doorway, with pilasters and leaded glass sidelights. narrow cornice with dentils, belfry atop roof.		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) Central hall plan with room to either side		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES 1892- building enlarged by moving west wall 12 ft. outward 1879- building was moved to a new foundation and repaired 1841- interior woodwork added		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE Good condition; offices of Lenox Historical Commission, Chamber of Commerce		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE The academy was made possible through a petition presented to the Massachusetts General Court on January 5, 1803. This was one of 30 academies chartered in this manner between 1782 and 1805.		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) National Register nomination, prepared by James Parrish & Nancy Marasco, Massachusetts Historical Commission, July 1982		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION C. Lavoie, Historian, HABS/HAER		DATE February 1989